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WAYSIDE NOTES

From Cerro Prieto to Tuape—Via Klondyke, Cucurpe and La Higuera. A Very Rich and Interesting Region.

TUAPE, Ures District, Sonora.

December 6, 1903.

Tuesday and Wednesday, December 1st and 2nd, I remained at Cerro Prieto, looking over the mine. It is surely a great property, destined to become one of the most productive and permanent gold mines on the continent. It is one entirely too big to be described in a running description of the country, written as one passes along.

There is a 20-stamp mill in operation at Cerro Prieto, but a new and much larger one with a capacity of crushing at least 300 tons of ore daily, will be erected in the near future. Mr. Colby N. Thomas of Nogales, general manager for the Nogales Copper Co., which now owns the Cerro Prieto, informed me that they hoped to have the mill manufactured and transported to the camp ready for erection, before the warm weather sets in next year.

During my stay at Cerro Prieto the mill was shut down for the monthly clean up, and I saw a goodly quantity of amalgam taken off from the plates.

Tuesday a band of gypsies visited the camp and gave open air entertainments, with dancing bears and dancing monkeys; and the women folk among them told fortunes.

Mr. James Rock, from Silver City, New Mexico, an old friend of Mr. Frank Cox, superintendent of the Cerro Prieto mine, was visiting Mr. Cox.

Wednesday morning Mr. Colby N. Thomas, general manager, who was at the camp when I arrived, started for his home in Nogales.

Between four and five miles east from Cerro Prieto, Mr. Harry K. and Doctor W. F. Chenoweth of Nogales are developing a very promising gold property called the "Dormido." Mr. Walter Chenoweth is in charge of the work.

About twelve miles northeast from Cerro Prieto the Caliche Mountain Mining Co., (Tener Brothers & Balch of Magdalena) are developing a good gold property, of which mention has been heretofore made in THE OASIS. There are two shafts 700 feet apart, and considerable drifting. There is a deal now on for the sale of the entire property.

The Santa Bibiana, in which J. S. Hurst, M. M. Conn and L. F.

Swain of Nogales are interested is about fifteen miles northeast from Cerro Prieto. It is an *antigua* silver property, with a fine record of production. It is said to be now under bond to a California capitalist named Salas, who has a brother, from Los Angeles, in charge.

I left Cerro Prieto Thursday morning with the Klondyke Camp, some twenty miles away, as my destination. The road led down by the pumping station at Calera, on the Santo Domingo river where I stopped a few minutes to visit with Dick Green, who runs the pump. Near the pumping station is the mill of the Calera Mining

The Klondyke Camp is the seat of operations of the Loraine Mining Co., which has a group of fine gold properties and a 10-stamp mill in operation. Mr. J. F. Tener is general manager for the Loraine Co.

In the afternoon Mr. Tener showed me over the mill and mine. The mill is a 10-stamp machine with plates and cyanide tanks. There is a shaft 350 feet in depth and working levels to a depth of 250 feet. The ledge is about 34 feet in width and mills about \$15 gold per ton. The ores are quartz and calcite, carrying gold. The mill, hoist and all machinery were supplied by Roy & Titcomb of Nogales. Every-

ings are all of adobe, commodious and comfortable. Instead of one great bunk house, as in so many camps, there are a number of small houses, with a single room each, so each man can have his own house all to himself. The most recent structure is a school-house, just completed. It is a very good building and will accommodate fifty or sixty pupils. Farther up the cañon are the cabins of the Mexican population. They are regularly arranged (by company regulation) along both sides of a street, a decided improvement upon the usual way of permitting the miners' cabins to be scattered hap hazard all among and over surrounding hills.

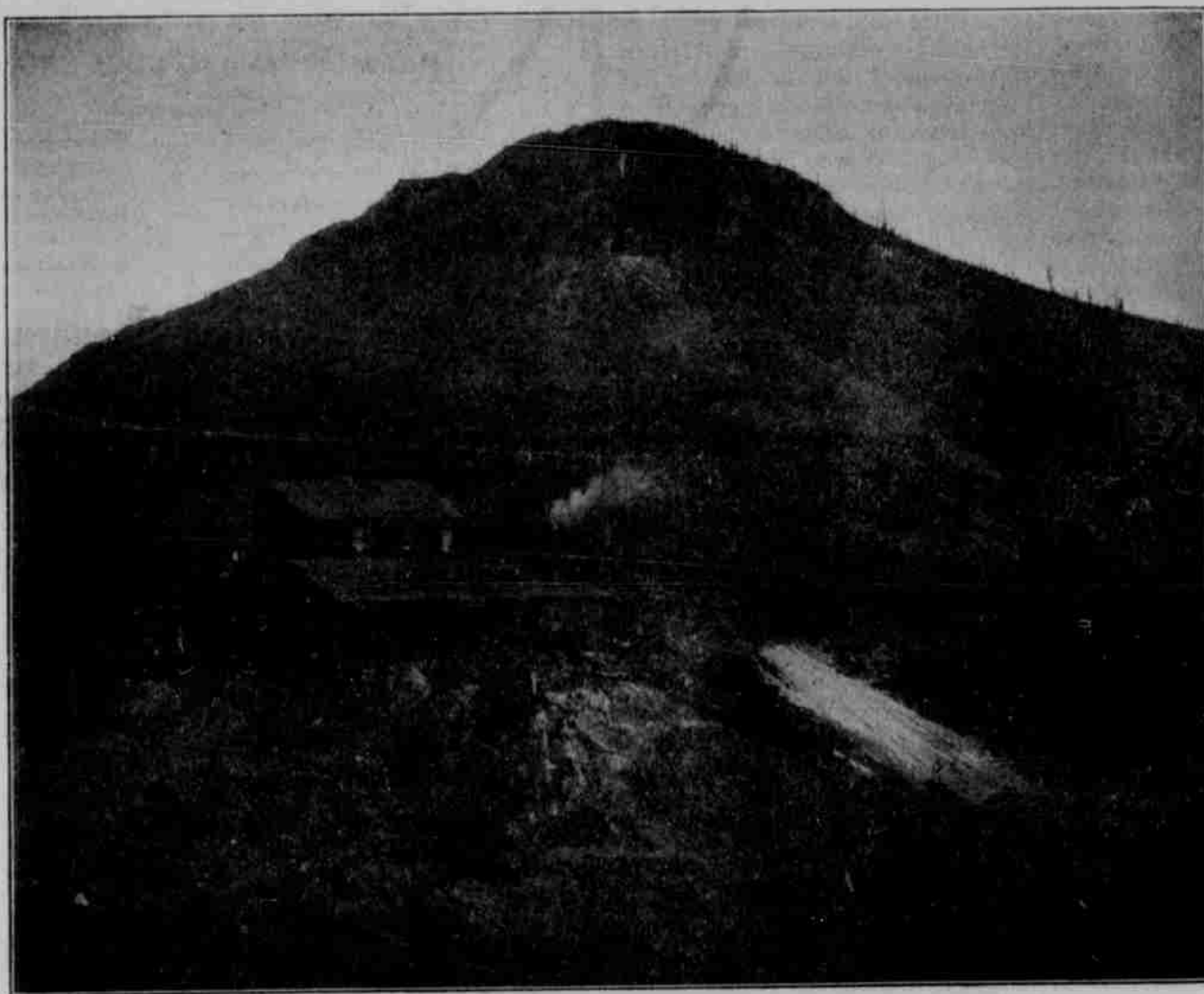
From the mill we could look down one cañon to the Tucabe mine and mill, the property of a company in Seattle, Washington. Mr. L. W. Bonney is general manager. The property is now closed down in litigation.

In another direction the Rey del Oro property is in sight, but a short distance away. During the afternoon we went over and called upon Mr. C. G. Rand, who is in charge. His partner, Mr. Martin is in New York. The Rey del Oro is a very promising gold property. The ledge is about 20 feet wide and is traced up a steep hill. A tunnel 125 feet long runs in on the lead. It shows good milling ore all the way. Several hundred feet above is a shaft.

Mr. Rand brought up from the bottom ore showing large flakes of native gold. Yet farther up the hill are *antigua* workings, ore from which also shows native gold. All told there are about 700 feet of work on the property.

Recently Professor Robert T. Hill late of the United States Geological Survey, a geologist of world wide experience, visited this region, including Caliche, Cerro Prieto, Klondyke, La Higuera, etc., and pronounced it one of the best gold regions he had ever visited.

The Santo Domingo placer gold fields, owned by Mr. W. C. Greene, are upon the river of that name in this vicinity. His holdings begin just above the Cerro Prieto pumping station, and extend up the river several miles. His prospect work is to be seen along the river in various places, and is reported to have always shown good results. It is the intention of Mr. Greene to inaugurate extensive hydraulic operations in the near future.



CERRO PRIETO MILL AND MINE.

Company, the mine being up in the hills some three miles to the westward. Both are now closed down, although the mill was lately running upon ore from another mine in the vicinity. The route followed led up the valley of the Santo Domingo some distance, amid very picturesque and charming scenery. Upon either side rise lofty bluffs of lime, or conglomerate or shale.

Within a couple of miles of the Klondyke Camp I met Messrs. H. Pomeroy Griswold, the engineer from Magdalena, and Luke Vandever, who were en route from Klondyke to Caliche. Mr. Griswold had been doing some surveying at the camp and was going to Caliche to attend another engagement.

The Klondyke Camp (sometimes known as Emperor Camp) was reached shortly before noon. There I found Mr. J. F. Tener, of the firm of Tener Brothers & Balch of Magdalena; Doctor A. S. Russel, formerly of Washington Camp; and Mr. W. B. Kibbe Jr., the assayer and cyanide expert for the company.

thing is first class, and all operations are automatic as far as possible.

The monthly cleanup was being made, and I was shown a fine bar of gold bullion worth about \$7,000, from the plates, and another from the cyanides worth about \$2,000 more. They were taken to Magdalena by Mr. Tener the day following my visit.

There are a number of Americans at the camp. Mr. John Borden is the millman and Dan Horrigan is his assistant; Herman Blankenberg, who formerly ran the American Hotel at Hermosillo, is foreman of the mine; Roy Holmes is running the hoist; W. B. Kibbe is assayer and cyanide expert; Doctor A. S. Russel is surgeon. Mr. Horrigan has his family with him.

The Emperor Camp, is the official name of the place, but as one of the mines is named the Klondyke, that name seems to strike the fancy of people, and it is more generally known by that. The camp is substantial and well built, wearing an air of general prosperity agreeable to see. The build-